

While Mr. French's work contains much interesting reading, it cannot be considered in the same class as Mershon's well-known work or even Col. Paxson's little pamphlet, as an accurate account of the Passenger Pigeon.

There are two valuable historical illustrations, one of a stool-pigeon basket and the other of a pair of pincers used for twisting the necks of the birds caught in the nets. The other plates are portraits of old pigeon hunters or others mentioned in the book.—W. S.

Economic Ornithology and Bird Protection.—The U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued the usual synopsis of the Game Laws for 1919, compiled this year by G. A. Lawyer and F. L. Earnshaw,¹ while another pamphlet² by the former author explains the present status of the Federal protection of migratory birds and the Canadian treaty. Another important treatise on this same subject is U. S. Attorney, Francis M. Wilson's brief in the court action against the Treaty in the St. Joseph Division of the western district of Missouri, a masterly summary of the arguments which convinced a confessedly antagonistic judge of the validity of the law.

'Bird Notes and News'³ and the annual report of the Royal Society for the protection of Birds are full of details of bird protection in England after the war.

'The Audubon Bulletin,'⁴ winter 1918-1919 issue, is as usual one of the most attractive publications of its kind, well printed and well illustrated. The need of forest and game protection in southern Illinois is discussed by Robert Ridgway and shows both in text and illustrations his well known love of trees as well as birds. Other articles deal with the scenic beauty of the Mississippi, Theodore Roosevelt as a conservationist, the bird protective laws of Illinois, etc.

'The Alabama Bird-Day Book'⁵ abounds in good bird poems and interesting sketches suitable for school use compiled from various sources, while several of the Mumford colored plates of birds serve as illustrations. Few, if any, other States have publications so well suited to the purpose as this.

The West Chester Bird Club of Pennsylvania, organized some years ago for local bird study under the leadership of Dr. C. E. Ehinger, has issued an attractive little pamphlet⁶ giving an account of its activities, with some very creditable original bird poems.

¹ Game Laws for 1919. By Geo. A. Lawyer and Frank L. Earnshaw. Farmers' Bulletin 1077, U. S. Department of Agriculture. August, 1919. pp. 1-80.

² Federal Protection of Migratory Birds. By George A. Lawyer. Separate from the Yearbook of the Department of Agriculture. No. 785, pp. 1-16.

³ Bird Notes and News. Issued quarterly by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, 23 Queen Anne's Gate, London, S. W. I., England.

⁴ The Audubon Bulletin. Published by The Illinois Audubon Society, 1649 Otis Building, Chicago.

⁵ Alabama Bird Day Book, 1919. Issued by the Department of Game and Fish, John H. Wallace, Commissioner. pp. 1-103.

⁶ West Chester Bird Club, Historical Sketch, Summary of Year's Work, 1918-1919, July 1, 1919. pp. 1-20.

'California Fish and Game'¹ for April contains an article of the insectivorous habits of the Herring Gull, by A. C. Burrill, a convincing argument in favor of the bird, while in 'Fins, Feathers and Fur,'² Thaddeus Surber has an interesting paper on the Pine Co. Minnesota Game Refuge as a playground, and there is a remarkable photograph of Mallards at Crane Lake, Illinois. Taking the opposite view from that expressed in the 'Audubon Bulletin' this journal unhesitatingly condemns the Crow and endorses the national crow shoot.—W. S.

Report of the National Zoological Park.³—The second annual report of superintendent Ned Hollister shows a slight increase in the collections, notwithstanding the restrictions of war times. The birds include 190 species, represented by 706 individuals in comparison with 182 species and 683 individuals in 1917. Among the more notable acquisitions of the year were six Keas (*Nestor notabilis*) and eight Wekas or flightless Rails (*Ocydromus*) from South Island, New Zealand; a pair of Straw-necked Ibis (*Carphibis spinicollis*) from Australia; a pair of Thick-billed Parrots (*Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha*) from the Chiricahua Mountains, Arizona; and a Santo Domingo Parrot (*Amazona ventralis*). Forty-five birds were hatched during the year, including several American Coots. This is apparently the first record of the breeding of this species in captivity, at least in this country. Waterfowl (Anseriformes) constitute the largest group in the collection. Of the 40 species represented, two-thirds are North American. These birds are kept in an enclosure provided with a large pond, where they can be readily seen, and thus form one of the most attractive exhibits in the Park. A noteworthy feature of the report is the complete list of mammals, birds, and reptiles by species and individuals and the care exercised in the use of correct scientific names.—T. S. P.

Annual Report of the New York Zoological Society.⁴—The report for 1918 shows commendable progress in the various activities of the New York Zoological Society in spite of adverse conditions due to the war. Two sections of this report contain notes of ornithological interest. The Department of Birds, in charge of Lee S. Crandall, Curator, and William Beebe, Honorary Curator, has maintained its collections "somewhat reduced in numbers but still rich in rare and unusual forms." Only 16 species new to the collection were added during the year. Of these, the most important

¹ California Fish and Game. Published quarterly by the California Fish and Game Commission, Sacramento, Calif.

² Fins, Feathers and Fur, Official Bulletin of the Minnesota Game and Fish Department, Carlos Avery, Commissioner, St. Paul, Minn.

³ Report of the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1918. Reprint from Ann. Rept. Smithsonian Institution for 1918, pp. 66-81, Washington Govt. Printing Office, 1919.

⁴ Twenty-Third Annual Report of the New York Zoological Society, 1918, Svo, pp. 156, 1919 (Dept. of Birds, pp. 67-70, Tropical Research Station, pp. 84-86). Office of the Society, 111 Broadway, New York.